

The motion was carried and the grant made.

The Council rose for lunch at 2 p. m. and met again at 2-50 p. m.

DEMAND XIII—POLICE.

MR. W. H. PITT: I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 5.21 lakhs on account of Demand XIII—Police.

Motion 74.

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI: Sir, I move the following :

74. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 13,638 for the establishment of the Commissioner by Rs. 2,070 (provision for supernumeraries).

The very word 'supernumeraries' indicates that they are not necessary and therefore may be abolished.

MR. W. H. PITT: I would first explain to the House the effect of the recent reorganisation of the department on the office establishments. Many offices are to be closed. These include the offices of the District Superintendents of Police of Peermade and Nagercoil and many of the Inspectors' offices. As the result of these and other reductions 28 posts of clerks and 3 posts of mochie have been abolished. Now the clerks and mochie holding these appointments are in permanent pensionable service and we have to provide in the police budget for them, until they are either absorbed in vacancies or transferred to other departments. These 28 clerks and 3 mochie have been distributed as follows. 8 clerks and 1 mochi have been attached to my office—I mean, the Police Head-Quarter Office. 20 clerks and 2 mochie have been distributed among the offices of the District Superintendents of Police. It is to the 8 clerks and 1 mochi attached temporarily to my office that the mover refers. Reference will be made to the remainder later. All those clerks and mochie are, as I say, in permanent pensionable service and therefore it is not possible to discharge them, and provision has to be made in the budget for paying them. I need hardly say that no member of this House is more anxious than I am to hand them over to any other department, if possible. Their transfer would probably have been settled already but for the delay in all the departments caused by the sitting of the Legislative Council. I have no objection to doing without clerks and mochie whom, as the mover says, I do not require; but the fact is that they are still on my hands, and until provision is made for them elsewhere, they have to be paid from the Police funds.

MR. K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Are we to understand that those places have been abolished, that these people have been retained as supernumeraries, and that as soon as they are absorbed the places will cease to exist?

MR. W. H. PITT: The appointments have been abolished.

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI: They have been styled supernumerary.

[The President.]

PRESIDENT: They are permanent hands and cannot be asked to go home. They will have to be kept on until absorbed elsewhere and are therefore called supernumeraries. It is only a technical term. They are not an addition to the permanent establishment.

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI: With the permission of the House I withdraw the motion.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

PRESIDENT: The next four motions (motions 75 to 78) are identical.

Motion 75.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI: I beg to make the following motion:

75. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 13,638 for establishment under 18 A—Police Commissioner, by Rs. 396 (abolition of the post of motor driver).

പോലീസുകാരികളുടെ മോട്ടോർഡ്രൈവർമാരുടെ ശമ്പളത്തിനായി നൽകുന്ന രൂപാ നിശ്ചയിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളത് അനുവദിക്കാൻ പാടില്ലെന്നുള്ള പ്രമേയത്തെ കൗൺസിൽ മുമ്പാകെ ഞാൻ ഹാജരാക്കിക്കൊള്ളുന്നു.

നൽകുന്ന രൂപായുടെ ഈ ചിലവ് എത്രയും തുച്ഛമായിട്ടുള്ളതാണെന്നു ഞാൻ സമ്മതിക്കുന്നു. ഈ രാജ്യത്തുള്ള മറ്റുള്ള ഗവണ്മെന്റുകളിൽ ആകാംതന്നെ മോട്ടോർഡ്രൈവർമാരുടെ ശമ്പളം ഗവർണ്മെന്റിൽനിന്നു കൊടുക്കാതിരിക്കുമ്പോൾ പൊലീസ് കമ്മീഷണർമാരും ഈ സൗജന്യം അനുവദിക്കുന്നതു ന്യായമായിട്ടുള്ളതല്ല. വലുതായ ഒരു തുക മാനുഷികതയോടും ശമ്പളം വേണ്ടുന്ന ഒരു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനുവേണ്ടി പൊതുജനങ്ങളിൽനിന്ന് ഈ മാതിരി ചിലവുകൾ ചെയ്യുന്നതു അനുവശ്യമാണെന്നു പറയാതിരിപ്പാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. അതിനാൽ ഈ തുക അനുവദിക്കാൻ പാടില്ലെന്നു ഞാൻ അഭിപ്രായപ്പെടുന്നു.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: I rise to oppose the motion. In this connection, I beg to submit for the information of the House that, under the terms of Mr. Pitt's appointment, Government are bound to provide him with a State motor car; and incur all charges on account of it, including the pay of the chauffeur, the cost of petrol, &c. Mr. Pitt will pay at the rate of four annas per mile for the petrol used.

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR: May I ask what the other terms of the agreement are?

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: The terms of the covenant are not published in the quarterly civil list.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Sir, in supporting the motion, I beg to submit that the object of the motion is not so much to curtail the motor car driver's salary as to express the desire of the House to have, as the Commissioner of Police, a person who will not draw a salary of Rs. 1,400, with a compensation allowance of Rs. 300 and a State motor car free of charge.

PRESIDENT: I am afraid that principle does not arise here. We are now concerned with the abolition of the post of the motor driver. You may, however, go on.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: This motion directly bears upon the Police Commissioner's establishment. Since his office is a non-votable item, this is the only way in which we can express our opinion in regard to the status of the Police Commissioner. We do not want to enter into a discussion in regard to the salary or allowance paid to the present Commissioner, but we want to have a discussion in regard to the status of the Police Commissioner as such. In other words, I want to impress upon this House through this motion the fact that, if we do not indent upon the services of such persons from abroad for this appointment, we shall be in a position to pay a reduced salary. Also, we shall then be free in fixing the conditions to be attached to that appointment. Here are certain covenants referred to by the Chief Secretary which are attached to the office of the Police Commissioner or rather the present holder of it. I say that it is possible for us, and desirable too, to have as Commissioner of Police a person, preferably a Travancorean, who may not insist upon such conditions being attached to his office before he accepts it. It is, therefore, that I want to discuss this motion in this House. It would be cheaper to have a son of the soil for this office than a foreigner with all these conditions; and after all, the foreign element is not so very essential either. If we can have Travancoreans—able and efficient men—to discharge properly the functions of the Chief Justice, the Puisne Judges of the High Court, and other similar high appointments, there is no reason why a Travancorean should not be found fit to hold the office of the Commissioner of Police. If this principle, *viz.*, the appointment of sons of the soil, be adopted, we shall be saved all this heavy extra expenditure in connection with the Police Commissioner-ship. It is to bring that point before the House that I support the motion brought forward by Mr. Kumara Pillai.

MR. C. J. CURIEN: As the conditions on which Mr. Pitt has been brought down include the free supply of a motor car and other concessions, I think we can never go back upon them and say that those conditions would not be observed. So I oppose the motion.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF: Sir, I am in perfect agreement with Mr. Kumara Pillai as regards the principle of supplying motor cars to the officers of the State. Motor cars are good in their own way, but they are not an unmixed blessing, particularly in the case of P. W. D. officers, because the subordinates care to leave the roads in a bad condition, and it is not possible to travel in such roads in motor cars as the cars will stick in the way and they will avoid inspection of such roads. There is also the temptation to make rushes here and there with the object of getting mileage. In regard to Mr. Pitt, he has come under certain conditions, and I do not think that we can go back upon them. As for getting outsiders for the office of the Police Commissioner, the State may have very strong reasons for going in for outsiders. There are, no doubt, competent men here. Some of the places occupied by Europeans are now occupied by Indians and they are well occupied. But the Government is the best judge as to whether a European should be got down or an Indian should take his place in respect of any particular appointment. Government know better than ourselves who are swimming in the service outside the

[Mr. K. P. Raman Pillai.]

Government. So, I support Mr. Kumara Pillai in regard to the *principle* of supplying motor cars to officers at Government expense; but I object to the motion now under discussion in consideration of the agreement entered into in connection with the appointment of Mr. Pitt.

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI: Sir, I am one of those who strongly advocate that, as far as possible, high appointments should be held by the people of this country. It has been a great complaint with me and other people that we have been unnecessarily getting outsiders, and that, if we put in sons of the soil in the place of these outsiders, they would be able to discharge their duties more efficiently than outsiders. But I am not prepared to say that there are no conceivable circumstances under which an outsider would be better for a time than a son of the soil. Once it becomes necessary under certain circumstances to invite an outsider, we have to pay him at his real value. Nobody has ever suggested or contended that Mr. Pitt is not entitled to all the emoluments that have been given to him according to the terms of the agreement entered into with him. We are bound by that agreement. So, I am quite against the motion that has been brought forward by Mr. Kumara Pillai.

MR. A. GOVINDA MENON: Sir, I have brought the self-same motion in order to inform the Government of our strong protest against the importation of foreign officers into Travancore to fill offices when there are men here who are equally capable of holding those offices. In the present case, Mr. Pitt is certainly entitled to demand the fulfilment of the terms, whatever they are, that have been agreed to by the Government; and so we have nothing to say against those terms. Still, I support the motion as a protest against the action of the Government in importing outsiders and with a view to prevent such importations in the future.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: Sir, since the question of appointing a European to the post of the Commissioner of Police has been allowed to be discussed, I feel I should not let slip this opportunity to say a word in regard to it. I interpellated Government regarding the appointment of a European to the post of the Commissioner of Police and that question has been vetoed. If it is decided by Government that a European should invariably be the head of the Police Department, I fail to see why the Travancore Government should not directly recruit a European from one of the colleges of Oxford or Cambridge or some other place just as we get down Professors of English and other subjects for our college. He may, after arriving here, very well study the vernacular languages of the country and serve the State throughout his term of 25 years or so, and then retire, or he may determine to settle down in Travancore itself. As for the motion before the House, since it is an obligation under the law, I see no way to get out of it, unless Mr. Pitt agrees to adjust his budget otherwise. We have to withdraw the motion.

MR. W. H. PITT: Sir, may I say one word by way of personal explanation? No agreement was made between the Travancore Government and myself. The agreement was made, I presume, between the Government of Travancore and the Government of Madras. I did not see the terms of the appointment until I was shown them by the Inspector General of Police, Madras, and was asked whether I would go to Travancore on those terms.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI: I beg to withdraw the motion.
The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Motions 76 to 78.

The following motions were not made:

MR. A. GOVINDA MENON:

76. To reduce the allotment of Rs 13,638 for establishment by Rs.396.

MR. T. M. CHIDAMBARATANU PILLAI:

77. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 13,638 for establishment by Rs.396.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI.

78. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 13,638 for establishment by Rs.360.

PRESIDENT: The next three motions are identical.

Motion 79.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI: Sir, I beg to make the following motion.

79. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,000 for travelling allowance under 18 A Police Commissioner, by Rs. 1,000.

പോലീസ് കമീഷണറുടെ സഞ്ചാരപ്പടിക്കായി അടങ്കൽ നിശ്ചയിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ൪,൦൦൦ രൂപയിൽ ൧,൦൦൦ രൂപ കുറയ്ക്കണമെന്നുള്ള പ്രമേയത്തെ ഞാൻ ഹാജരാക്കിക്കൊള്ളുന്നു.

൧൯൦൭-ൽ പോലീസ് കമീഷണറുടെ സഞ്ചാരപ്പടിക്കായി ൩,൦൦൦ രൂപയെ ചിലവാക്കിയിട്ടുള്ളത്. ൯൭-ൽ പോലീസ് കമീഷണർ ധാരാളം സക്കീട്ടുകൾ പല കരണങ്ങളും അവസരങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ട്. എന്നിരുന്നിട്ടും ൩,൦൦൦ രൂപയെ സഞ്ചാരപ്പടിക്കു ചിലവായിട്ടുള്ളത്. ൯൭-ലെ പോലീസ് കമീഷണർ കൂടുതലായ വിശദാംശങ്ങൾ സക്കീട്ടുകൾ നമ്പർ വേണ്ടിവരുന്നതോ കോണാണി. എന്നുമാത്രമല്ല ഈ രാജ്യത്തിലെ ജനങ്ങളിൽ ൧൦൦-നു ൭൫ വീതം പേക്കും പോലീസ് കമീഷണർ ആരാണെന്നറിയുന്നതിനോ അദ്ദേഹത്തെ കാണുന്നതിനോ ഇടയായിട്ടില്ല. അതിനാലാണത്രെ, പോലീസ് വകുപ്പിൽ നന്നു ജനങ്ങൾക്കു സ്ത്രയമായി കിട്ടേണ്ടതെല്ലാം കുറഞ്ഞുവരികയാണ് ചെയ്യുന്നത്. ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള സ്ഥിതിയിൽ പോലീസ് കമീഷണറുടെ സഞ്ചാരപ്പടി ൯൭-ലേക്കു നമ്പർ വകുപ്പിക്കേണ്ടതിന് ഒരു സ്ത്രയവും കാണുന്നില്ല. അതിൽനിന്ന് ഈ ആണ്ടിൽ ൧,൦൦൦ രൂപ കുറയ്ക്കണമെന്ന ഞാൻ അഭിപ്രായപ്പെടുന്നു.

MR. W. H. PITT: When the budget estimate was prepared, there were outstanding claims of the late Commissioner due to a revision of the rates of travelling allowance payable to him under the British Indian Civil Service Regulations in the middle of 1096. The late Commissioner put in supplementary travelling allowance bills, after proceeding on leave, for Rs. 600. Provision for paying these bills was made in the budget for 1098.

[Mr. A. Hoogewerf.]

Correspondence followed the receipt of these bills and there was some delay in settlement due to the fact that the late Commissioner is on leave in Scotland. He has, since the preparation of the budget, withdrawn the greater part of his claim. As the difference between the amount the mover wishes to cut from the allotment and the claims that have been withdrawn is only Rs. 400, I accept the motion of Mr. Kumara Pillai.

The motion was carried.

PRESIDENT: The next two motions being identical with the previous one, I take it that the movers do not press them.

Motions 80 and 81.

The following motions were not made:

MR. A. GOVINDA MENON:

80. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,000 for travelling allowances Rs. 1,000.

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI:

81. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,000 for travelling allowances by Rs. 1,000.

Motion 82.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI: I beg to make the following motion:

82. To omit the allotment of Rs. 8,000 for the purchase and upkeep of a motor car for Police Commissioner.

പൊലീസ് കമ്മീഷണറുടെ ഒരു മോട്ടോർ വാങ്ങുന്നതിനും, അതിന്റെ സംരക്ഷണത്തിനും മാർച്ചിയിൽ ചിലവഴിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള 8,000 രൂപ അനുവദിക്കാൻ പാടില്ലെന്നുള്ള പ്രമേയത്തെയാണ് ഞാൻ കൊണ്ടുവന്നിരിക്കുന്നത്. ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെപ്പറ്റി സംസാരിക്കുന്നതിനുമുമ്പ് മോട്ടോർ എന്റിപ്രൈസ് വാങ്ങുന്നു എന്നും ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിലെ ആവശ്യപരമായ അതല്ല കമീഷണറുടെ സ്വന്തവകുടുംബം എന്നും അറിയിക്കേണ്ടതായിരിക്കുന്നു.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: Sir, as has already been pointed out, Government are bound, under the terms of his appointment, to supply Mr. Pitt with a motor car. There is the old car and we are only going to have it replaced by a new one. The proposal is to sell the old car and to make use of the proceeds for purchasing a new one. The amount provided in the budget is the additional amount required for that purpose.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: Sir, I wish to know whether there is anything in the agreement to show what make of car should be supplied to Mr. Pitt.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: There is nothing in the agreement to show that. It must be a serviceable car.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: Sir, I wish to know whether it will be left in the State when Mr. Pitt leaves Travancore.

PRESIDENT: It is State property. (Laughter.)

MR. A. HOOGEWERF: Sir, I object to the principle of providing motor cars to officers, as it will lead to their doing no work.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. Mr. Kumara Pillai is in possession of the House and he has not yet finished his speech.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI: ശമ്പളം, പെൻഷൻകൺട്രിബ്യൂഷൻ കെട്ടിടവാടക മുതലായവ ഉൾപ്പെടെ മാസത്തോറും ൨,൦൦൦ ത്തിൽ പരം രൂപാ ശമ്പളവും, ൫,൦൦൦ രൂപാ വിചയ്യുള്ള ഒരു മോട്ടാർകാരും, ൧,൮൦൦ രൂപാ ചിലവാക്കിയുള്ള സംരക്ഷണച്ചിലവും, നൂറു രൂപാ ചിലവാക്കി അതിലേക്ക് ഒരു ഡ്രൈവറും, കൊടുത്ത് ഈ രാജ്യത്തേക്ക് ഒരു പോലീസ് കമ്മീഷണറുടെ ആവശ്യം എന്താണെന്ന് അങ്ങ് മനസ്സിലാക്കുക. മിസ്റ്റർ പിറ്റർ ഈ ചിലവിനും ഇതിന് ഉപരിയായ ചിലവിനും യോഗ്യനായിരിക്കാം. ഏകദേശം ഇവിടത്തെ ദിവാൻജിയോടൊപ്പം ശമ്പളമുള്ള ഒരു പോലീസ് കമ്മീഷണറുടെ നിയമനം ഭരണഭാരം ഏറ്റവും മനോവേദനയെ ഉണ്ടാക്കിയിട്ടുള്ളതാണ്. മിസ്റ്റർ പിറ്ററിനെ പോലീസ് കമ്മീഷണറായി വരുത്തുന്ന കാര്യത്തോടു കൂടിയ കരാർ അനുസരിച്ചു മോട്ടാർ കാറി കൊടുക്കാൻ ഗവർണ്മെന്റ് നിർബന്ധപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നതായി ചീഫ് സിക്രട്ടറി പറയുന്നു. ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള കാര്യങ്ങളിൽ ഗവർണ്മെന്റ് ഉറപ്പുള്ളതിൽ ഭരണഭാരം നിർവ്വാഹം സാധിക്കപ്പെടുന്നു. ഏതായാലും ഇത്ര കൂടിയ ചിലവുള്ള മോട്ടാറിന് മിസ്റ്റർ പിറ്റർ ഗവണ്മെന്റിനോട് ആവശ്യപ്പെടാതിരിക്കണമെന്നും, അതിന്റെ സംരക്ഷണച്ചിലവു മിതമായനിവൃത്തി കരുത്തുണ്ടാകുന്നതും ഞാൻ അഭ്യർത്ഥിക്കട്ടെ അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: I wish to know whether there is any objection in training a few constables or head constables from the Reserve Police for driving the motor car when occasion requires it.

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR: I am afraid that the member is not in order. This House has already passed the item under the head of salary to the chauffeur. My friend wants to know whether there is any objection to train constables for that purpose. We are at a motion to omit the allotment for the purchase of a motor car. This has nothing to do with the maintenance of the car.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: The maintenance of the car is included in this item.

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR: That has nothing to do with the pay of the driver.

PRESIDENT: Strictly speaking, Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai is out of order. But I have no objection to his letting in a suggestion on this point.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: May I be permitted to bring in an amendment to this motion? Since I understand from the Chief Secretary that the agreement does not provide for any particular make of car being supplied to Mr. Pitt, I think that Mr. Pitt will be quite satisfied, considering the financial distress that we are now in, with a Ford car. I am sure that the one that he is now using will fetch Rs. 1,500 or Rs. 2,000. If that be so, he could certainly agree to a reduction of Rs. 3,500 on account of the purchase of the car, and since he is going to have a new car, I am sure that he can maintain it at Rs. 100 per month. And thus there also we can have a saving of Rs. 1,300 under maintenance. So that I move for a reduction of—

PRESIDENT: I did not give you permission to bring forward that amendment.

[Mr. W. H. Pitt.]

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: I asked the President for permission.

PRESIDENT: I have not yet given you that permission. I did not know what the nature of the amendment you proposed to bring in was.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: The amendment was to reduce the allotment of Rs. 8,000 by Rs. 4,800.

PRESIDENT: I am afraid I cannot allow that amendment.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: I bow to your ruling. But I understood from the proceedings of the last few days that, if a member wanted to bring forward an amendment to a motion and if it was a corollary to the motion under discussion, he was entitled to do so. This being budget discussion, the President may allow a member to bring forward amendments to the motion without insisting upon the time-limit which is prescribed for amendments.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI: നോട്ടീസ് രൂപം ആകുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് നിന്നു കംപ്ലൈൻസിൽ മതിയാകും.

PRESIDENT: I am afraid I cannot allow the amendment. The acceptance of amendments without due notice is discretionary with the President. The Chief Secretary will say whether it is possible to make any reduction.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: It is not possible to go in for a Ford car, because the purchase has already been arranged for.

MR. K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: I am sorry that the discussion has strayed away from the main point. I want to know whether the sum of Rs. 2,500 claimed for the maintenance of the car includes provision for the necessary repairs and the purchase of parts. The cost of a chauffeur has already been provided for. Including this amount, the cost of maintenance of the car will come to Rs. 2,800, i.e., at the rate of Rs. 230 per mensem. If it is over and above the cost of the fixtures that may be necessary, I should think that the amount is extravagant.

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR: I wish to know whether the Chief Secretary was in order in placing this order before the budget is sanctioned.

PRESIDENT: That question does not arise here.

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR: He said that an order had been placed, and that, therefore, the matter should not be considered or reconsidered.

PRESIDENT: He did not quite say so.

MR. W. H. PITT: I have no objection to accepting less than Rs. 2,500 for maintenance, if a new car is provided. The purchase of a new car in the place of the car which is now supplied to me by Government is put forward solely as a business proposition. The car now

supplied to me is worn out. It is an old model that is no longer manufactured. You cannot buy spare parts for that type of car anywhere in India. Consequently, spare parts have to be made either locally or in Madras and these are unsatisfactory.

MR. M. NILAKANDA PILLAI: Sir, I want to know whether he cannot get the spare parts from England or America.

MR. W. H. PITT: I understand from the agents that spare parts for this type of car are no longer manufactured. As I was saying, you cannot buy spare parts for that type of car and any member of this House who has a motor car knows that spare parts made locally are very unsatisfactory and that their life is comparatively short. The car that I am now using is roomy and comfortable and I am not personally anxious to be rid of it, but its maintenance is very costly. It runs only 16 miles to the gallon. The consumption of petrol is thus very great. The car, being shaky, wears out its tyres quickly. The new car it is proposed to buy will run 22 miles per gallon. The quantity of lubricating oil now used is also very great. This year, excluding petrol, tyres and other running expenses, the car has cost Rs. 1,100 to maintain on account of repairs. We have an estimate for, I think, nearly Rs. 500 for further repairs necessary; and these will have to be done, if the car is to be retained.

As regards the cost of maintaining the car, I cannot accept a grant of Rs. 100 per mensem; but, provided a new car is purchased, I will accept Rs. 150 per mensem. That is a cut of Rs. 700 under up-keep.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI: Sir, I accept this cut of Rs. 700, and amend my motion accordingly.

The motion, as amended, was carried.

Motions 83 to 86.

The following motions were not made:

MR. A. GOVINDA MENON:

83. *To omit the allotment of Rs 8,000 for the purchase and upkeep of a motor car.*

MR. T. M. CHIDAMBARATANU PILLAI:

84. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 8,000 for the purchase and upkeep of a motor car.*

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI:

85. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 5,500 for the purchase of a motor car.*

MR. N. KUMARAN:

86. *To reduce the allotment of Rs 47,550 for Commissioner by Rs. 8,360.*

Motion 87.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Sir, I beg to move the following:

87. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 2,760 for four supernumerary Inspectors.*

If, as in the case of clerks, these Inspectors are also persons whose services have been dispensed with, but who are obliged to be retained for the sake of their absorption in the services, then, of course, I have no complaint. I should like to have some information on that point from the Police Commissioner.

[Mr. N. Kumaran.]

MR. W. H. PITT: Not quite so.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Then I press my motion.

MR. W. H. PITT: In the reorganisation of the Police Department, the appointments of officers of and above the rank of Sub-Inspector have been reduced from 101 to 85. It is not intended to fill one of these appointments, namely, that of the Palace Guard Inspector; and so there are 84 appointments to be filled. We have 89 officers for whom provision has to be made. One of these was by mistake included among the 76 Inspectors for whom separate provision has been made. The Account Officer has objected to his inclusion there; but, since his pay has been budgeted for there, he can be ignored. He is on duty. So, we need consider the remaining four only. Of the four officers, one is on leave preparatory to retirement. The second is on leave and may or may not rejoin duty. The third is also on leave and he is not likely to return to duty. The fourth has absented himself without leave and will not return to duty, if I can prevent it. When the budget estimate was prepared, it was not known which officers would be declared supernumerary and so a rough estimate was made of their pay or leave allowance, as the case might be. The cost of two was put at Rs. 60 each per mensem and of the other two at Rs. 55 each per mensem. The total provision is thus Rs. 230 a month, which is about the average of what will be required.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Sir, two of them are on leave. Suppose they choose to return, what will happen to them?

PRESIDENT: They will have to be provided for either in the Police or in other departments. That is the gist of Mr. Pitt's speech.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Then I withdraw the motion.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Motions 88 to 90.

The following motions were not made:

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI:

88. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 2,760 for four supernumerary Inspectors.*

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI:

89. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 5,250 for twenty-two supernumeraries.*

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI:

90. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 5,250 for twenty-two supernumeraries.*

Motion 91.

MR. N. KUMARAN: Sir, I beg leave to make the following motion:

91. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 2,760 for Assistant Superintendents' offices.*

My object in bringing forward this motion is to discuss the question of the re-organisation of the Police Department, particularly with reference to the constitution of the three Districts into six sub-districts, and the appointment of six Assistant Superintendents. The amount proposed to be deleted by me is the cost of the establishment of the six Assistant Superintendents.

Now, you will find that this department was thoroughly reorganised for the last time in 1912, and that subsequent to that period, certain changes were introduced on a number of occasions. Another reorganisation has just taken place and the five districts now subsisting have been converted into three districts and put in charge of three District Superintendents, to be assisted by six Assistant Superintendents. Each District is to be divided into two subdivisions. The District Superintendent is to be in charge of one of them assisted by an Assistant Superintendent as his personal assistant, while the charge of the other sub-district will be held by the remaining Assistant Superintendent.

My point is that this division of each of the three Districts into two and the appointment of six Assistant Superintendents are quite unnecessary. In the first place, there is no case made out as to the necessity of this division into subdivisions and the creation of these six Assistant Superintendentships.

From the Administration Report of 1906, we find that in all directions the work of the Police Department has decreased. I am reading from the Administration Report :

"2,449 cognisable cases were taken up direct by the Police during the year. 215 were pending at the beginning of the year and 690 cases were referred by the Magistracy to the Police. Thus the total number of cognisable cases for disposal was 3,354, against 3,581 in 1905. . . . The number of non-cognisable cases dealt with was 91 against 96 in the previous year. The percentage of detection showed a steady decline from 70 to 66 in 1905 and 59 in 1906. The percentage of convictions fell from 56 to 47 in 1906. Mr. Pitt considers that the reason for these decreases is to be sought in the increased burden that has fallen on the Police in respect of watching and reporting on social and political movements. . . . The total number of grave crimes fell from 1,911 in 1905 to 1,519 in 1906. The main feature of the year was a decrease of offences both against person and property. This is believed to be due to an improvement in economic conditions. There was a decrease under all the heads except robbery. There were 68 cases of murder or 6 less than the number in 1905, the figures showing an increase in the Quilon and Devicolum Districts. The total value of property lost in crime was Rs. 95,641, against Rs. 1,10,504 in 1905, the loss being the heaviest in Quilon. The percentage of recovery of lost property fell from 62 to 39."

I, therefore, think that there is no case made out for the constitution of six Assistant Superintendentships for the three Divisions into which the whole State is to be now divided. In the first place, a provision is made in the G. O. to the effect that one of the Assistant Superintendents in each Division should be the personal assistant to the District Superintendent in that Division and that he should also be in charge of the headquarters subdivision. Unless it is made clear that the work of each District Superintendent is too heavy for him, it cannot be considered necessary that some sort of help should be given to him. In Travancore, however, it may be urged that the officers are hardworked; but I may say that the members on this side of the House will not be able to subscribe to that proposition. This is especially so in the case of the executive officers. My impression is that they have too much time at their command, especially because there are no particular hours of the day during which they should attend to their duties. They are not like the judicial officers who are chained to their work for a particular length of time every day. I, therefore, maintain that there is no necessity for the creation of these Assistant Superintendents.

[Mr W. H. Pitt.]

There is one other aspect of the question and that is that three of the six Assistant Superintendents are to help the District Superintendents in their office work. There is no knowing what sort of officers are going to be appointed to help the District Superintendents. If it is the case that these Assistant Superintendents are going to help the District Superintendents in their office work or in their administrative work, there will be some show of reason in that these District Superintendents will then be relieved from the duties of office management and they will thereby be enabled to go on circuit and supervise the police work in the District. If it is the intention of the department to recruit the Assistant Superintendents from the *cadre* of Inspectors now in charge of Circles, I for one do not think that the necessary number of officers who are competent to do this duty will be available. It would also be seen from the G. O. that the *net* result of the reorganisation of the department will be an additional expenditure of about Rs. 46,000. There is no doubt that the Salaries Committee proposed a reorganisation of this department and it is also right and proper that the emoluments of some of these officers should be increased. But that does not mean that there is any necessity for the creation of these Assistant Superintendships. This is only a small State. The area of Travancore, as we all know, is only about the same as that of an ordinary District in British India. In such a small State, six Assistant Superintendents and three District Superintendents, I submit, are too many, unless the Commissioner is going to say that they are absolutely necessary and that, without their presence, police work cannot be successful or efficient. My point is that the whole amount will have to be deleted. In making my motion for the cut of the whole establishment of the Assistant Superintendents, what I meant to bring to the notice of this House was that the House should vote for cutting off this expenditure, so that the *cadre* of the Assistant Superintendents might be made impracticable. With these words, I move my motion.

MR. W. H. PITT: Sir, I do not think the mover has altogether understood what the rearrangement of the police force is to be. I tried to explain it during the general discussion stage, but was evidently misunderstood. I think I had better go back over the same ground. Prior to 1088, there was a Superintendent in charge of the whole force. There were 3 Assistant Superintendents and 50 Inspectors. 39 of these Inspectors were in charge of Divisions. Next came the station house officer who was then a head constable. After the reorganisation in 1088, the Superintendent was styled the Commissioner of Police and the Assistant Superintendents District Superintendents. There were then one Commissioner, 4 District Superintendents of Police and 20 Inspectors. Sub-Inspectors were appointed station house officers in place of head constables. There were 75 of them. In that reorganisation, the State was divided into 17 Circles. There were thus 17 officers between the District Superintendents and the station house officers. The figures have varied from time to time and we have now one Commissioner, 5 District Superintendents of Police and 22 Inspectors. 10 of the Inspectors are in charge

of Circles, and so there are 10 officers between the District Superintendents and the station house officers. We propose to have 3 District Superintendents of Police and only 6 intermediate officers between them and the station house officers. So far from having created a new class of officers, we have reduced the number of intermediaries even further than it was reduced in 1088. We shall have only 3 District Superintendents instead of 4, and only 6 officers between the District Superintendent of Police and the station house officer instead of 17. The intermediate officers have been called Assistant Superintendents, instead of Circle or Division Inspectors as they were known before. The name is perhaps unfortunate. We cannot call them Inspectors for this reason. The Prosecuting Inspectors and the Reserve Inspector who hitherto enjoyed some unfair advantages have been placed in the same *cadre* as the station house officers. As these officers and some of the Circle Inspectors who will hereafter be in charge of stations objected to being called Sub-Inspectors, it was decided to call the station house officers Inspectors in future. Some other name had to be found for the officers superior to them and the name "Assistant Superintendent" was chosen.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF: How many Circles and how many District Superintendents are there now?

MR. W. H. PITT: Five District Superintendents of Police and ten Circle Inspectors. The pay of these intermediary officers is not very much greater than it was before. A first grade Inspector was paid Rs. 200. It is proposed that Assistant Superintendents should rise to Rs. 250. As I said in the general discussion on the budget, the change has been effected solely to save expenditure; and there is a saving of Rs. 11,000 between 1097 and 1098 on account of the pay of District Superintendents of Police and other officers superior to station house officers. Mr. Kumaran said that he did not understand why Assistant Superintendents had been appointed. I think I have now explained that it is only a new name that has been used and that the number of these officers has been reduced from 39 in 1087 to 6 now.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF: Sir, what is the special function of the Assistant Superintendent? Is he an administrative or a detective officer?

MR. W. H. PITT: The intention is to give the Assistant Superintendents as little office work as possible and to employ them mainly on outdoor work. The Assistant Superintendent at headquarters will, however, relieve the District Superintendent of some of his routine office work. When the District Superintendent goes into camp, the Assistant will remain at headquarters and *vice versa*.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF: Are we to understand that he is going to give more attention to crime than to administration?

MR. W. H. PITT: Yes, that is the intention.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Sir, as far as I have been able to understand Mr. Pitt, the position seems to be this. Mr. Pitt himself admits that the intermediary officers between the District Superintendents and the Sub-Inspectors in charge of police stations have been found to be unnecessary and that the above system has proved to be defective; and, it is with a certain amount of gratification

[Mr. G. Paramesvaran Pillai.]

that he says that he has been able to reduce the number of such officers from 39 to 6.

MR. W. H. PITT: I do not say that.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: The intermediary officers have now been reduced from 17 Circle Inspectors in 1088 to 6 Assistant Superintendents. Practically, these Assistant Superintendents are now taking the place of the original Circle Inspectors who were intermediaries between the District Superintendents and the Sub-Inspectors in charge of stations. My position is that even these six Assistant Superintendents might well be dispensed with and then we shall have a very good saving under "District Police."

It will be found that, before 1088, besides the Commissioner, or rather the Superintendent, there were three Assistant Superintendents in charge of Districts. It will be seen from the Administration Reports that that system was certainly not defective on account of lack of supervision. For, in 1080, when the old system of three Assistant Superintendents and one Superintendent was in vogue, the percentage of conviction was 75.6, whereas after the new system of intermediary officers controlling the Sub-Inspectors or station house officers was introduced, the percentage of conviction came down to 46 in 1090, and 53 in 1091, and it has remained so till 1096. We cannot, therefore, say that the intermediary system of supervising officers adopted in 1088 has been for the better. The department itself and the Government seem to have now recognised this fact and they have been at pains to reduce this class of officers. Still Mr. Pitt wishes to provide for six Assistant Superintendents as a remnant of the old system. He justifies the retention of six such officers on the ground that there are only three District Superintendents and that, therefore, each Superintendent may be given two Assistants, one to be in charge of a subdivision and the other to be the personal assistant to the District Superintendent. In the first place, it is absolutely unnecessary to have an Assistant Superintendent as personal assistant to the District Superintendent in his own Division. Sir, it is but common knowledge that Travancore—a small State—need not necessarily be divided into six subdivisions with nine supervising officers. Three District Superintendents ought to suffice. The District Superintendents' pay has been put on a very decent scale, viz., Rs. 300-450. He is, in regard to pay, on an equal footing with the Additional District Judge. Of course there is the merit of consistency in this matter. For, the Commissioner of Police is paid considerably higher than even the Chief Justice. But I need not labour that point now. I must confess my inability to understand how an Assistant Superintendent getting Rs. 250 is to be the personal assistant of a District Superintendent starting on Rs. 300. Where is the necessity for such personal assistants? According to the Commissioner, the services of the personal assistant will be placed at the disposal of the District Superintendent. It needs no argument to show that this new system will result in complete lack of efficiency as well as of a sense of responsibility on the part of the officers concerned. The

District Superintendent will easily shove his responsibility on the shoulders of the Assistant Superintendent. When, for instance, the District Superintendent smells a riot, there is every chance of his running to the nearest subdivision leaving the Assistant Superintendent to cope with the affair in the subdivision where his presence may be absolutely essential. A District Superintendent wishing to shirk his duties can successfully play the game without being caught, and that too at the cost of his personal assistant. The change is certainly not going to add to the efficiency of the executive. As regards office work, it cannot certainly be so heavy that a District Superintendent cannot possibly attend to it with the aid of a well-paid office staff. Why should the District Superintendent go about and control the Assistant Superintendent, who is almost on an equal status with himself? The District Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent can be supervised by the Commissioner himself. As it is, there are very many good means of communication, and the Commissioner himself can directly supervise these officers. I see no justification for the proposed arrangement. If the Police Commissioner thinks that it is after all very essential to have the Assistant Superintendents in charge of these subdivisions, why should there be a duplication of work? Two sets of officers on practically the same pay have hereafter to attend to the same work. Of course, there is the usual argument of "supreme needs of progressive administration," requiring a bloated establishment. But, apart from that, I ask, are we justified in spending any more money on schemes of such doubtful utility? I would even call them costly luxuries. At any rate, I do not hesitate to characterise these appointments as doubtful necessities. In such cases, I should certainly think that this House will not countenance any expenditure. They can ill afford to do so. I should say that the retrenchment attempted should be real and substantial. Here is a pre-eminently unnecessary item of expenditure and I request the House to accept the motion.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: Sir, I also strongly oppose any reorganisation of the Police Department, involving additional expenditure. If Mr. Pitt, the reorganiser, bases his case on the ground that crimes and criminals have increased in Travancore, I have to conclude that the forces at his disposal are unable to cope with the increasing crimes. Mr. Pitt has advisedly not based his case on that ground. If I understood him right, the station house officers of Mr. Bensley's time became the Sub-Inspectors of Mr. George, and a select few of the Sub-Inspectors became Circle Inspectors in the last reorganisation. If this reorganisation is going to be allowed, a few of these Circle Inspectors are going to be styled Assistant Superintendents. I cannot for a moment see how an increase of a few rupees in their salaries is going to make them any more efficient. Looking at the reorganisation so taken up by Mr. Pitt on the ground that he wished to secure a more economic and efficient administration of the department, I heard him say that the reorganisation has really resulted in a saving. Evidently, there is some difference in the meaning of similar terms used by the Financial Secretary and the heads of departments in Travancore,

[Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai.]

because according to the former this reorganisation is going to cost the Government an additional sum of Rs. 48,466.

MR. W. H. PITT: I referred to the pay of officers above the station house officer.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: This is really going to be spent on the Circle Inspectors of the past. Mr. Pitt does not propose to increase the force. That is another indication to show that there is no increase in crimes. If Mr. Pitt would kindly make a few trips in the old-fashioned canoes, he will find that the people of Travancore are as law-abiding and as loyal as of any other ideal place in India, and that cases of dacoity, robbery and offences of that kind are merely technical terms here. There is no intentional and deliberate murder, so to speak, or any pre-meditated dacoity or burglary, committed in any part of Travancore, but for purposes of law they are sometimes put—and you must have noted that in the year 1096—under this category. Of the 25 cases of dacoity reported, 5 alone were charged, of which none ended in conviction; and of the 240 cases of robbery, 30 alone were charged, 9 ending in conviction, while, of the 347 cases of theft reported, 249 alone were charged, 160 ending in conviction. This certainly shows that the police force as at present obtaining is sufficiently efficient to cope with the crimes in this country. Looking at the total number of cases during the past 10 years, one finds a fall in their number. In 1086 it was 4,048. In 1095 it fell to 3,581, giving a decrease of 500 cases. In 1086 there were 3,485 cases of theft. The number has fallen to 3,401 in 1096. Again, while the number of persons convicted in 1086 was 3,174, it came down to 1,417 in 1095.

PRESIDENT: Your time is up.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: I strongly support the motion.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: Sir, I will take up this subject from where my friend Mr. Raman Pillai left it. He has given us very interesting figures from which the only possible conclusion seems to be that the Police Department is getting inefficient in spite of the whole-hearted and earnest attention bestowed upon it by Mr. Pitt. I remember a time when a policeman loved his work for the sake of work. Under Mr. Bensley,—I am old enough to remember that,—a head constable, who had a personal attachment to his chief, had a pleasure in also detecting and preventing crimes. Now, I do not know the reason why it should be so,—perhaps because Police Commissioners are so often changed,—there is not so much attachment to the chief as there used to be. That is an unfortunate state of affairs. Police officers are now doing the work without taking any personal interest in the matter. The result is that crimes are on the increase.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: Let me correct my friend. Crimes are on the decrease. The total number of cases has decreased by 500.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: That may be what the official records show. I am a man moving among people of all classes. I have

a house in Trivandrum. Therefore, Sir, in spite of the official records that crimes are on the decrease, I must assure Mr. Raman Pillai that crimes are on the increase and I am sure he will support me.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: No, Sir. (*Laughter.*)

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: Sir, I do not care for his support. I stand upon my own legs. I say there have been five thefts in Tampanur in the course of four days. I personally know about three of these thefts. In one case of house-breaking at dead of night, the thief broke the windows and stole away the articles of children. In another case a cycle owned by a high officer was stolen away. Yesterday there was a brawl at about 8-30 P. M. in a very prominent place near Tampanur. That being so, I need not dilate further on this subject. Crimes are on the increase. It is the duty of the police officer to take some more personal interest in the matter. The Police Commissioner may not be able to go himself to the various places. He may be guided by good motives. He may exact work from his subordinates; but it is the constable or the head constable that has to do such work. I cannot entirely agree with the policy of reducing constables. In the same way the number of head constables has been reduced by three or four. The efficiency of the department does not lie in the high-paid officers. If we have too many of them, the result will be that they will become ease-loving officers. If there are a District Superintendent and an Assistant Superintendent in the same place, the result will be that neither of them will work. Each will fight with the other in the habits of indolence. There is also another matter. I am sorry to say that it is a fact that, if the Assistant Superintendent and the District Superintendent happen to belong to two different communities, it is quite possible that all the members of one community will join together. That is a very unfortunate state of things. I want to impress upon this Council the utter impolicy of creating the office of the Assistant Superintendent.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: Sir, I wish to offer a few observations. We have first of all to consider the necessities of law. Under the Criminal Procedure Code we want an officer in charge of every police station. They are persons who are empowered under the law to investigate and bring offenders to book. Now, in the proposed re-organisation it is seen that Inspectors are put forward as officers in charge of police stations. The necessities of law are met thereby. Above these officers in charge of police stations are thrust in the Assistant Superintendents of Police, the District Superintendents, and, at the top, the Commissioner. The Commissioner is a necessity under the Police Regulation. So, between the Commissioner and the officers in charge of police stations, we have two sets of officers, *viz.*, the District Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent. The object with which these appointments are made can only be to see that the ordinary executive work of the Police Department, *i. e.*, the prevention of crimes and the detection and investigation of cases do not go off the line, but are steadily kept on in the very line in which they are expected to remain. Therefore I may shortly put it that the District Superintendent and the Assistant

[Mr. N. Padmanabha Pillai.]

Superintendent form practically the steering gear of the department. The question is whether these people are to effectively control the work. I have very serious misgivings with respect to that question. On a prior occasion, *i. e.*, when the reorganisation in 1912 was taken up, it was thought, evidently by the Government and those concerned in the matter, that the creation of the Circles will bring the supervising officers into closer touch with those who were already in the field of actual work; and 17 Circles were created. The Circle Inspector had only a smaller area comparatively to superintend than what the Assistant Superintendent is now required to do. Yet, after ten years' trial it was found that the system of Circle Inspectors was a failure. Naturally, instead of allowing the superintending officer to be in still closer touch, what the Government now propose to do is allow him a larger area and make him more efficient by giving greater pay. Looking at the *personnel* of the Assistant Superintendents, they may be seen to be persons who have been kicked up from the line of Circle Inspectors under a different name. These persons who were Circle Inspectors now form Assistant Superintendents. How can their efficiency be improved by a small addition of pay and change in name? Then, as has been already observed, to put an Office Assistant in the office of the District Superintendent seems not in the least necessary and may well lead to complications. The real question is that all the attention that has been bestowed upon the reorganisation of the Police Department seems to be to improve the intermediary officer.

So far as the intermediary officers are concerned, they are a set of officers who need only work if they are so minded,, because they do not conduct any case. They are a set of fault-finding officers. If they are so minded, they will report that there is a fault; otherwise, they will say that there is no fault. That is the position of the intermediary officers. Even in Madras there is an outcry against the intermediary officers. So far as these intermediary officers are concerned, they have not to do any work whatsoever and, so far as the public are concerned, there is no means of correctly ascertaining or criticising their work. It is the Arcadia of the Department. As for the work of the intermediary officers, the only occasion on which it is possible for the public to test the nature of the work turned out by them is in connection with the charging of cases and investigation as ultimately decided by the criminal courts. In this respect it is the painful duty of the public to notice that very serious remarks made by the Magistracy against the police are not taken into consideration at all. I am surprised that all the observations in respect of the conduct of the police officers have had no effect at all.

MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI: May I say a word about the intermediary officers, because I am also convinced that they do not help the people? I rise simply to cite one instance to support my statement. When I took charge of the Quilon Municipality, I came to know that the stealing of street lamps was a matter of very common occurrence.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR: That is a matter of ordinary occurrence in all Municipalities.

MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Going through the previous two or three years' records, I find that nearly 200 cases were reported to the police and I am sorry to bring to the notice of this House that not even one case was detected by the police. It was only the other day that five or six lamps were stolen from one locality. The matter was reported to the police. I submit that I am convinced that this is because of the want of responsibility on the part of these intermediary officers. I should vote against any reorganisation in this direction. I support the motion.

MR. K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Sir, as has been pointed out, the reorganisation causes to the Government an additional expenditure of over Rs. 48,000. In the present state of the finances of the country, it is absolutely necessary to consider whether the pruning knife could not be used in this matter. The mover of the proposition has hit upon the Assistant Superintendent of Police. So the question before the House is whether the pruning knife could not be applied and whether a good case has been made out for the creation of the post of the Assistant Superintendent of Police. The Police Commissioner proposes to give each of our District Superintendents two Assistant Superintendents of Police; and for what? One of the Assistant Superintendents is to relieve him of his office work, and the other, to relieve him of his field work. What is the work of the District Superintendent then? He has neither office work nor field work. So, with the creation of the Assistant Superintendent, the District Superintendent has practically ceased to have any work at all. Further, it appears to me that one of these Assistant Superintendents is treated as personal assistant to the District Superintendent. It is rather surprising that an officer drawing a salary of Rs. 300 to Rs. 450 should have a personal assistant on Rs. 200 to Rs. 250. The purpose will equally be served, as in the case of several other important departments, by the appointment of a Manager or a head clerk drawing a decent salary. This reorganisation would have been justifiable, if the increase of salary and the giving of high-sounding names made the *personnel* of the service more efficient. On the other hand, in every reorganisation of the Police Department we more or less find undeserving persons getting very high salaries. I know that, at a time when the first reorganisation was taken up by Mr. George, the then Commissioner of Police, a head constable who was getting Rs. 18 suddenly rose to Rs. 110. I do not think that either the work or the efficiency of this officer would have improved by his salary being raised from Rs. 18 to Rs. 110. So that, neither from the efficiency of the service nor from the necessity of relieving overwork is the creation of the Assistant Superintendent justifiable. With these observations, I support the motion.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF: Sir, it may be asked how an excise officer can speak about a police affair. My experience of the Police Department is not sweet. The day before yesterday, a Police bobby got hold of my bandyman and I had a world of trouble to release him. He has a

[Mr. J. John Nidiry.]

habit of shying the police. Yesterday, I had a great deal to say about the excise reorganisation scheme, but the two and a half hours allowed for the discussion of the motions on that demand did not allow my motion to be made. I condemn reorganisations out and out. One officer comes and makes a Circle Officer an Assistant Commissioner. An Inspector is transformed into a Sub-Inspector and a Sub-Inspector into an Inspector. All these I very much condemn. There is no continuity of policy and no principle involved; nothing at all. That is my humble opinion.

Coming to the police reorganisation scheme, I have not closely studied it. From the opinion I heard from Mr. Pitt just now, I think his scheme is absolutely on the line of the scheme that I wanted to propose for the consideration of this House for the Excise Department, *i. e.*, having proper well-defined large Districts and well-defined Circles. I find from Mr. Pitt that he has combined two districts into one. Some little Circles have been combined to form big Circles. I should be glad if instead of five Circles we had only three. Instead of having ten circles we have six Assistant Superintendents. All the same, the Commissioner is a better judge of the matter. I am only speaking of the principle of the whole thing. On principle I say that the scheme must be absolutely sound. The District Superintendent is an administrative officer, pure and simple. The Assistant Superintendent, from what I understand from Mr. Pitt, looks to the prevention of crime. He goes about from place to place and sees that crimes do not take place. That is the real function of the Assistant Superintendent and the District Superintendent. That should also be the function of the Assistant Excise Commissioner and the Circle Officer. I am sorry to say that I did not have an opportunity of talking about it yesterday. I absolutely support Mr. Pitt in his scheme of having District Superintendents of Police and Assistant Superintendents of Police.

MR. J. JOHN NIDIRY: Sir, very often it is said and rightly too, that it is more difficult for one to get out of the Travancore service than to get into it. If an officer has completed his 55th year, extension of service will be forced upon him, and, if he is found unfit for the work assigned to him, promotion will be the next thing. And in all reorganisations, if one grade of officers is found not necessary, a higher grade will be created for them. The recent police reorganisation is a very good illustration of this. When the Salaries Committee found that the grade of Circle Inspector was not necessary, they recommended its abolition. But, in the police reorganisation, the old Circle Inspector appears as Assistant Superintendent on a higher pay, and perhaps with less work. My submission is that, in a small State like Travancore, it is not advisable to introduce all grades of service into the Police and other departments, in the same way as in British India and other countries. There the situation is quite different; the District Superintendent and the Circle Inspectors

have a very large area to control. In this small State there is no necessity for intermediaries like Assistant Superintendents or Circle Inspectors. Under these circumstances, I am at one with my friends in the view that this intermediary grade is quite unnecessary.

MR. W. H. PITT: May I ask the last speaker, Sir, whether the Salaries Committee did not recommend in their report both the Assistant Superintendent and the District Superintendent on the one hand and the Circle Inspector on the other?

MR. J. JOHN NIDIRY: That was with regard to minor Divisions like Padmanabhapuram and Devicolam. When it was proposed that the Padmanabhapuram Division should be reduced, it was suggested by the Committee that there might be two Assistant Superintendents for the Padmanabhapuram and Devicolam Divisions, instead of two District Superintendents.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR: Sir, the motion before the House is to omit the provision for the staff to be attached to the Assistant Superintendents of Police amounting to Rs. 2,760. I would just examine the question on a broad line. We have been talking of retrenchment and reorganisation in this House and have been looking up the figures for 1098. The expenditure budgeted for is less than the revised estimate for 1097. In page 7 A of the budget, the estimated amount for 1098 is given as Rs. 5.95 lakhs, and the revised estimate for 1097 as Rs. 6.10 lakhs. Again, the actuals of 1096 are Rs. 5,94,358. Over this, the increase for 1098 would be Rs. 1,000. As against that, I want my friends to take into account the increase of pay that has (according to the Salaries Committee) been given to the entire police force. There is no doubt that a retrenchment has been effected in the sense that the strength of the whole force has been cut down. There has been an increase of salary given to the hard-worked police officers, police constables and head constables. And at the same time a new class of officers seems to have been introduced. That seems to be all the trouble. If they had continued to be called Circle Inspectors, the difficulty would probably not have arisen at all.

While discussing the provision for the staff of the Assistant Superintendents, Mr. Padmanabha Pillai's reference to the loss of municipal lights in Quilon as justifying and giving strength to his motion appears to me to be bordering on the verge of the ridiculous. He has been in charge of the Municipality only recently, and he seems to resent as an act of positive indifference on the part of the police that public property in the shape of municipal lanterns should be lost and that they could not be traced. As for myself, I do not attach much importance to it.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Sir—

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR: Sir, my friend should not interrupt me.

That is a thing of everyday occurrence and that has been my experience. If my assurance of sympathy will help him in any way out of the difficulty, I will tell him that I have been President of the Alleppey

[Mr. M. Nilakanda Pillai.]

Municipality for the past six or seven years. Year in and year out, month in and month out, the disappearance of lights is reported. As a formal course I used to send up the papers; but no reply used to be received. I told my staff not to worry the police any more. I would replace the lights. That is the only thing possible, unless we are going to have a special pattern of lights for these municipalities. That does not appear to be, at any rate, a solid argument to put forward against the sanctioning of this particular amount.

With reference to what Mr. G. Paramesvaran Pillai said, I generally approve of the police force going in for a larger allotment for having more responsible officers to infuse a higher moral tone into the administration of the department. I have not studied the details of the scheme. I view it only from a broad standpoint. If you reduce the number of Inspectors without sacrifice of efficiency and if at the same time—

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Sir, we do not want to reduce the number of Inspectors.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR: I am not suggesting it as a proposition to be adopted. I merely say that in actual working the head of the department has found that the number of superior officers can be reduced and that the introduction of a better class is deemed necessary by him.

Viewed from the standpoint of a layman, I am generally for the acceptance of the proposition, because I may assume that the existence of a higher class of officers is likely to infuse a better moral tone into ranks of the subordinate staff. Some of my friends may be right in saying that an inferior class of men may possibly be kept or created. That is a matter of detail with which I do not propose to worry the House. It is a matter which the Commissioner should see to and seriously take into account to justify the higher scale of salary now sanctioned. It is a matter for the Government to consider whether the best men available ought not to be put in to fill those places, even at the sacrifice of the claims of those who have put in a number of years' service, because service after all should not count in that question. In that view of the case, I vote against the motion.

MR. M. NILAKANDA PILLAI: Sir, some of my friends, Mr. K. P. Raman Pillai and Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai, were discussing the increase and decrease of crimes in the State. According to the Government's statistics there is a decrease in the number of crimes. I am of opinion that crimes are increasing in this town. Two days ago there was a murder in Palkulangarai. There have been many cases of theft in the town. Unless crimes are on the decrease, there is no good in effecting reforms. We do not want so many District Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents. Why should we want six Assistant Superintendents? During the time of Mr. Bensley there were only three Assistant Superintendents of Police. Why not we convert the six Assistant Superintendents of Police into three District Superintendents of Police, and give them two Inspectors each as

personal assistants, instead of giving two Assistant Superintendents of Police to each District Superintendent of Police? I think thereby we can cut down a large amount and effect a retrenchment. I, therefore, support the motion.

MR. C. J. CURIEN: Travancore was divided into five Divisions under five District Superintendents of Police. It is now proposed to be reduced to three, so much so that the jurisdiction of one District Superintendent of Police will in future be larger than what it has been formerly. Under this circumstance, two Assistant Superintendents of Police in each Division, or each District as it is at present divided into, are highly necessary to support the District Superintendent of Police in his superintending and other items of work. Of these Assistant Superintendents of Police that are contemplated to be appointed in each District, one is to assist the District Superintendent of Police in his office while he is on tour and the other to do superintending and other work over the Inspectors in stations where there may be many complaints. For the former work Assistant Superintendents of Police may be conveniently employed. When there is a vacancy of a District Superintendent of Police, the Assistant Superintendent may be conveniently promoted after he gains some practice. Some of the former speakers have advised the abolition of the Assistant Superintendent simply on the score of economy, if I correctly understand them. If that is the argument, we will have to go back to the time of Sir T. Madhava Rao, when there were only extra policemen and *naicks*. The expenditure would be much less than now. It is not economy that we have to look to; it is efficiency of work. Therefore, I oppose the motion.

MR. K. C. RAJA RAJA VARMA: Sir, there has been a good deal of argument about the personal attachment of the members of the police force to their chief and about the work they do. The real officers who do the major part of the work are the constables and the Sub-Inspectors. They do most of the investigation work. The presence of the police force in the town and rural areas largely prevents the criminal classes from committing crimes. So we want more men in the lower ranks, *i.e.*, in the constables' grade. It is they who bear the brunt of the work of the Police Department. And the more we introduce intermediaries between the head of the department and the persons who really work in the department, the less we get that personal attachment between them which is so necessary for the efficient discharge of police work. These men are likely to feel that, however much they may work with interest and perseverance, their endeavours may not be recognised by the head of the department who is far away from them, so that it is necessary to reduce the intermediaries and increase the number of constables. I, therefore, support the motion for the reduction of the intermediaries.

MR. JOSEPH PANJIKARAN: Sir, the evil that we are now fighting against is only the remnant of a greater evil. By the reorganisation, Mr. F. S. S. George unnecessarily supermanned the Police Department. We have all along been fighting against it. Coming to the time of Mr. Cunningham, we observe that he was always

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൧൦ വു - ൽ പോലീസ് വകുപ്പിലെ ചിലവ് ൨,൯൪,൭൪6 രൂപയായിരുന്നത്
 ൧൦൯൨-ൽ ൪,൨൭,൨൦൦ രൂപയും, ൧൦൯൭-ൽ ൬,൧൦,൬൦൦ രൂപയും ആ
 യി വർദ്ധിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇങ്ങനെ ചിലവു വർദ്ധിക്കുന്നതിനു പല കാരണങ്ങളുമുണ്ട്.
 ൧൦ വു - ലെ പരിഷ്ക്കാരപ്രകാരം നൂറു കുറ്റബോധാപനം തിരിച്ചടയ്ക്കുന്ന നിശ്ചയി
 ചിരുന്നത് ൯൭-ൽ ൯൦ ആയും, ൧൦൦ ഹെഡ് കാൺസ്ട്രബിൾമാർ മതിയാകുമെന്ന നിശ്ചയി
 ചിരുന്നത്, ൧൫൮ ആയും, ൧,൫൪൦ കാൺസ്ട്രബിൾമാർ മതിയാകുമെന്ന നിശ്ചയി

ചിരന്തൻ ൨,൧൮൨ ആയും വർദ്ധിക്കാനിടയായി. മിസ്റ്റർ ജാജിൻറെ കാലത്തു സർക്കിൾ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടറന്മാരെ സൃഷ്ടിക്കുന്നതിന് അദ്ദേഹം ശുപാർശ ചെയ്തതും ആയതിനെ ഗവർണ്ണർ അനുവദിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തു. സർക്കിൾ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടറന്മാരുടെ സൃഷ്ടിയിൽ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു കൂടുതൽ രക്ഷയുണ്ടാകുമെന്നു ഗവർണ്ണർ അത്യാശയോടു കൂടിയിരുന്നു എങ്കിലും അതിന്റെ ഫലം അവർക്കു നിരാശയെ ഉണ്ടാക്കുകയാണ് ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളത്. എന്നു മാത്രവുമല്ല, സർക്കിൾ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടറന്മാരുടെ ജോലി എന്താണെന്നും, അവരെക്കൊണ്ട് എന്തു ജോലിയാണ് ചെയ്തിക്കേണ്ടതെന്നും ആ ഉദ്യോഗത്തെ സൃഷ്ടിച്ചതായ കമീഷണർക്കു അതിനെ അനുവദിച്ച ഗവർണ്ണർവിനോടു അറിവാൻ തരമില്ലാത്ത സ്വപ്നകാലം വിഷമിക്കുകയാണ് ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളത്. ആ പരിഷ്കാരത്തിന്റെ ഫലമായി പൊതുജനവിഷയത്തിൽ ഏതാനും തുക ഒഴുതും ചെയ്തു എന്നു മാത്രമേയുള്ളൂ. മിസ്റ്റർ. കണ്ണിങ്ങ് ഹാം വന്നു ഭരണം തുടങ്ങിയപ്പോൾ സർക്കിൾ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടറന്മാർ ആവശ്യമില്ലെന്നും ആ ഉദ്യോഗം നിമത്തേണ്ടതാണെന്നും ശുപാർശ ചെയ്തതും, ആയതു ഗവർണ്ണർ അപ്പോൾ അനുവദിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തു. പോലീസ് വകുപ്പിൽ ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള പരിഷ്കാരങ്ങളും ഒഴുപ്പങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടായിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നു എങ്കിലും ജനങ്ങളുടെ ഭേദത്തിനും സ്വത്തിനും കൂടുതൽ രക്ഷയുണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടോ എന്നു നോക്കുന്നതായാൽ ഇല്ലെന്ന് ആർക്കും ധൈര്യമായി പറയാവുന്നതാണ്. നേരെ മറിച്ചു പലേ അവസരങ്ങളിലും തീരാത്ത സങ്കടങ്ങൾ ജനങ്ങൾ അനുഭവിക്കാൻ ഇടയാകുകയാണ് ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളത്. പോലീസ് വകുപ്പിൽ കാര്യക്ഷമതയാണ് പ്രധാനമായി നോക്കേണ്ടതെന്നുള്ള മിസ്റ്റർ കയ്യിൻറെ അഭിപ്രായം ആദരണീയമാണെങ്കിലും അതോടുകൂടി ഒഴുപ്പത്തിന് ഇടയാകാതെ സൂക്ഷിക്കേണ്ടതും ഒട്ടും അപ്രധാനമായിട്ടുള്ളതല്ല. സർക്കാർ റിക്കാർട്ടുകൾക്കൊണ്ടു പോലീസ് ഭരണത്താൽ കുറവുണ്ടാകുന്നുണ്ടെന്നും, ജനങ്ങളുടെ അനുഭവത്താൽ കുറവുണ്ടാകുന്നുണ്ടെന്നുള്ള വാദങ്ങൾ ഇപ്പോൾ കൗൺസിലിൽ നടന്നുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. എന്നാൽ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ പോലീസ് ഭരണക്കാരെ കുറവുണ്ടാകുന്നുണ്ടെന്നും, ജനങ്ങളുടെ രക്ഷക്കുറവുണ്ടെന്നും വരുന്നു എന്നുള്ള മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. ചേലപ്പിള്ളയുടെ അഭിപ്രായത്തോടു ഞാൻ പൂർണ്ണമായി യോജിക്കുന്നു. ഉറനാട്ടുകളിൽ നടന്നുവരുന്ന മോഷണങ്ങളിലും, ജനങ്ങൾ അനുഭവിച്ചുവരുന്ന ദേഹോപദ്രവങ്ങളിലും ൧൦൦ -നു ൨൫ വീതം പോലും പോലീസ് അധികൃതന്മാരെ അറിയിക്കാതെ ജനങ്ങൾ സൂക്ഷിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെന്നുള്ളത് എനിക്കറിയാവുന്നതാണ്. അതിനുള്ള കാരണങ്ങളെ സമയക്കുറവിനാൽ ഇപ്പോൾ വിസ്തരിക്കാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നില്ല. ഇവിടെ വരുന്ന പോലീസ് കമീഷണറന്മാരല്ലാം ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റു പരിഷ്കരിക്കണമെന്ന് ആഗ്രഹിക്കുകയും അതിനേയല്ലാം ഗവർണ്ണർ അനുവദിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു. അതിന്റെ ഭവിയുൽഫലങ്ങളേയും ഒഴുപ്പങ്ങളേയും പററി ആലോചിക്കു പതിവില്ലെന്നുള്ളത് ഇവിടെയായ സാധാരണ നടപടിയായിത്തീർന്നിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇപ്പോൾ നടത്തിട്ടുള്ള പോലീസ് പരിഷ്കാരത്താൽ ആണ്ടിൽ ൪൮,൪൫൩ രൂപയുടെ അധികച്ചിലവും, എ. എസ്. ഡി. കളുടെ സൃഷ്ടിയുമാണ് ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ളത്. നൂതനസൃഷ്ടികളായ എ. എസ്. ഡി. കളുടെ ഗതി പഴയ സർക്കിൾ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടറന്മാരുടെ തായിത്തീരുകമെന്നുള്ളതിന്നു സംശയമില്ലാത്തതാണ്. അങ്ങനെയുള്ള ഒഴുപ്പത്തെ പരിഹരിക്കുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടി ഈ ഉദ്യോഗത്തെ ഉടൻതന്നെ നിമത്താക്കിയേണ്ടത് അത്യാവശ്യമാണെന്നുള്ള അഭിപ്രായത്തെ ഞാനും ബലമായി താങ്ങിക്കൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI: Sir, it is possible to find arguments both in support of and against the reforms that are proposed to be carried out in the Police Department, just as it has been possible for the members to say that crime has been increasing and also decreasing.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: May I inform the member that I base my opinion on the statistics furnished by the Government?

[Mr. N. Kumaran.]

MR. K. C. MAMMEN MAPPILLAI: I say that from the statistics members are proving one side and the other. Whatever that may be, it is possible that there are two sides to every question. Similarly, those of my friends who have been condemning the proposed reform are honestly of opinion that it may be a retrograde step. But considering that the carrying out of this motion may seriously interfere with the whole scheme of reform as enunciated by the head of the department after mature consideration and sanctioned by Government, I for one am not prepared to support the motion. I oppose it.

PRESIDENT: I may say that the time allotted for this subject expires by 5-15 P. M.

MR. K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Sir, may I propose that the question be now put?

PRESIDENT: I would allow the Revd. Fr. Kuriakose Vettikappalli, who has already caught my eye, to speak, before calling upon the mover to reply.

REV. FR. KURIAKOSE VETTIKAPALLI: Sir, in opposing this motion I have to remark that, in the country parts, if we have not frequent visits from the higher police officers, it is very difficult to have an effective check over the inferior police officers stationed there. So, at least for that purpose, I think we should have these Assistant Superintendents of Police.

MR. N. KUMARAN: Sir, it has not been made out why these Assistant Superintendents of Police were found necessary. It is not the Commissioner's case that the District Superintendents of Police are found to be incapable of coping with their work. It is not his case that there is a large quantity of arrears or that the District Superintendents of Police are not able to visit all the stations under their charge and that therefore they ought to be afforded relief. In the case of the Excise Department we heard the Excise Commissioner telling this House that his Assistant Commissioners were not able to cope with their work and that those officers were hard-worked. In respect of the police reorganisation, the Commissioner is not bringing forward the plea of overwork of officers. It is therefore clear that there is no necessity for introducing a class of intermediaries between the executive officers—the Inspectors,—and the superintending officers—the District Superintendents. Also, a real case has been made out by some of my friends who addressed the House, to show that crimes in Travancore are not on the increase, but that they are actually on the decrease. It will be quite clear from the statistics furnished by Government that crime is decreasing. My friend, Mr. Velu Pillai, cited instances of certain occurrences that came to his notice recently. I submit that these occurrences will also be included in the statistics that will be prepared for 1927. That is no reason for saying that crimes in Travancore are on the increase. There is one other aspect with reference

to the reorganisation. It has been pointed out by some of my friends that in the reorganisation there has been a reduction in the total number of hands. We find that a large number of constables and head constables have been reduced. I think that the efficiency of the department, if at all, will depend, not upon the maintenance of higher grade officers like the Assistant Superintendents of Police, but upon the executive officers that are appointed to carry on the work of investigation and prevention of crimes.

MR. W. H. PITT: I tried to point out before that officers intermediary between the station house officers and the District Superintendents have not been newly introduced, but had always existed and that the number of them has been reduced from 39 in 1087 to 6 to-day. Several members have spoken as if this class of officers had been created now for the first time. It is not so. I see that that is now understood. One member compared the percentage of detection in this department before the reorganisation of 1088 with that obtaining to-day and found that this was due to the introduction of Circle Inspectors. The main feature of the reorganisation of 1088 was the substitution of Sub-Inspectors for head constables as station house officers and, as it is mainly the station house officer who investigates cases, it would be more reasonable to accuse the Sub-Inspectors of being responsible for the fall in the percentage of detection. I do not admit that this is so. The present Sub-Inspector is ten times better than the head constable station house officer. The figures of 1087 are probably not as reliable as those we publish to-day. I do not think that poor detection can, in any way, be attributed to the Circle Inspectors. The appointment of six Assistant Superintendents in the place of ten Circle Inspectors was a compromise between what the Salaries Committee thought as necessary and what I thought necessary. Some misapprehension exists in regard to the duties to be performed by Assistant Superintendents of Police. I made a mistake in not reading out in answer to Mr. Hoogewerf a list of the duties and powers of Assistant Superintendents of Police. My time was short and I attempted to answer the question in a few words with the result that I have been misunderstood.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF: Sir, Mr. Pitt has misunderstood me when I spoke of what they should do.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Pitt, you have to make your reply within ten minutes.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF: He told me already that they were preventive officers mostly in charge of crime.

MR. W. H. PITT: Anyway you see the point that, instead of going into greater detail which I might have done with regard to the duties to be performed by the three Assistant Superintendents who will be personal assistants to the District Superintendents of Police, I spoke briefly and have not been understood.

The headquarters of the three Assistant Superintendents were made the same as that of District Superintendents for the following reason.

[Mr. V. Kunjukrishna Pillai.]

At Trivandrum, which is the Capital of the State, an extra police officer is required for various reasons which I need not detail. Devicolam taluk is to be added to the Quilon District. The Salaries Committee proposed to have an Assistant Superintendent at Devicolam. I did not like the idea as, with reduced numbers, there is not enough work at Devicolam to occupy the time of an Assistant Superintendent and as moreover it is very expensive to keep an officer in the High Range, as he draws extra allowances. He is, therefore, put at Quilon where there is plenty of work and he will visit Devicolam periodically. Similarly, an Assistant Superintendent of Police is put at Kottayam in preference to Peermade. At Quilon and Kottayam these officers will be at the disposal of the District Superintendents for employment as they think fit.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Pitt, your time is up. In view of the explanation offered by Mr. Pitt, I take it that Mr. Kumaran is withdrawing his motion.

MR. N. KUMARAN: Sir, I have not quite followed Mr. Pitt.

PRESIDENT: I am very sorry that, even if the members talk loud, they cannot be heard. The Hall is so constructed.

MR. N. KUMARAN: Sir, I cannot find my way to withdraw the motion.

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR: Sir, if Mr. Kumaran presses his motion, I may tell him that, if carried, it will affect only the subordinate staff, because we are concerned with the establishment.

The motion was put to the vote and declared lost, 18 voting for and 27 against.

Motions 92 to 95.

The following motions were not made:

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI:

92. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,760 for Assistant Superintendents' offices by Rs. 720.

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI:

93. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 37,680 for head constables by Rs. 1,500.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI:

94. To omit the allotment of Rs. 8,466 for supernumeraries (constables).

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI:

95. To omit the allotment of Rs. 8,466 for supernumeraries (constables).

Motion 96.

MR. K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Sir, with your permission, I wish to make a slight amendment to this motion.

PRESIDENT: What is the amendment, please?

MR. K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: The motion consists of two parts—one to reduce Rs. 2,000 out of the travelling allowance provided for the Commissioner and Rs. 15,000 out of that allotted for the District Police. So far as the travelling allowance to the Commissioner is concerned, the Commissioner has already accepted a reduction. So, I wish to make my motion only so far as the travelling allowance to the District Police is concerned.

PRESIDENT: You may do so.

MR. K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Sir, I then make the following motion:

- 96. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 50,120 for travelling allowances for the District Police Officers by Rs. 15,000.

The demand under this head is for Rs. 50,120. The revised estimate for 1907 under this head gives Rs. 45,120, so that this year's demand is Rs. 5,000 and odd over the figure for 1907. Absolutely no reason has been assigned for this increase. Further, in these days when travelling has become very easy and cheap, the travelling allowances of officers should be reduced and not increased. I also beg to submit for consideration that, in regard to the travelling allowances drawn by the officers, the public impression is that there is a very great abuse of the allowances made to them. At any rate, I may submit one instance for the information of the House which I myself personally know. The House might remember that there was a time when there were only two Prosecuting Inspectors in Travancore. One of them had jurisdiction from Tovala to Mavelikara and the other from there up to Parur. I personally knew the former, and I had occasion to travel with him for the purpose of conducting one or two cases. If he had cases, say in Mavelikara, Karunagapalli, Quilon, Shencottah, Nagercoil and Tovala, he would see that the cases were so posted that he had to travel from Mavelikara to Tovala, from Tovala to Karunagapalli, and then to Shencottah and lastly to Quilon. This became a scandal and I think the Commissioner of Police had subsequently to refuse travelling allowance to the Prosecuting Inspectors and he had to give them consolidated allowance according to a fixed rate. Thus, it appears to me that there is very great room for the abuse of the travelling allowances provided for the officers; and the public impression is that the amount allotted is very much more than what is necessary. Even granting for argument's sake that the travelling is not too much, if greater scrutiny is made in regard to the T. A. bills submitted by officers, it will be possible to reduce the allotment under travelling allowances by Rs. 15,000. In regard to the Commissioner's own travelling allowances, he has been magnanimous enough to reduce it by Rs. 1,000. In view of these facts, if the Commissioner would meet us half-way in regard to this item, I shall withdraw my motion.

[Mr. K. Paramesvaran Pillai.]

MR. W. H. PITT: Mr. Paramesvaran Pillai has been comparing the figures for the current year with those for 1098.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: May I point out that it would be better, if Mr. Pitt could answer my friend, Mr. K. Paramesvaran Pillai, before proceeding further.

MR. W. H. PITT: I cannot say 'yes' or 'no'. The revised estimate for 1097 shows that the figure is Rs. 78,000, including horse allowances. Government have recently added Rs. 16,900. That was not on account of any increase in the expenditure of this year, but for paying off the arrears of the previous year. Our travelling allowance account has been not unlike that of the stationery contractors. Part of the allotment of one year has had to be devoted towards paying off the claims of the year before. The account has been squared now and there are no outstandings. Mr. Paramesvaran Pillai said that he was not aware of any reason why there should be an increase of expenditure next year. According to the Travancore Service Regulations, a police constable who draws a salary of Rs. 10 and above is in what is called "superior service". He draws a better rate of travelling allowance. His daily allowance is increased by 33½ per cent. His mileage rate is doubled; and for journeys by train he draws two fares instead of one. We had 478 such constables before the reorganisation. Since the reorganisation we have 1,640 of them. It is not possible to reduce travelling any further and I believe the payment of higher rates of allowances to two-thirds of the constabulary will cost something like Rs. 10,000. The T. A. bills of the constabulary for the current year amount to Rs. 22,000. This figure is calculated on the actuals of the earlier months. Next year they may amount to Rs. 32,000. The question whether the limit of superior service should be raised to Rs. 12 from Rs. 10 as it is at present is under the consideration of Government. If that amendment of the T. S. R. is going to be made, I should, with some hesitation, be prepared to surrender Rs. 5,000; but, as I have no assurance on that account, I cannot see my way to accept the motion. With regard to the expenditure on travelling allowance generally, I may say that an enquiry has been made this year as to what our normal expenditure is, with a view to exercising better control. I think that greater attention has already been paid to the subject. Complaints have been received from all grades of officers from District Superintendents downwards with regard to the cutting of their claims for travelling allowance. I believe the utmost has been done in that direction, and I do not think that there can be any just criticism of the way in which the travelling allowance bills have been passed.

PRESIDENT: In view of the explanation of Mr. Pitt that every possible effort will be made to retrench the expenditure under travelling allowance, do you agree to withdraw?

MR. K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: I beg to withdraw my motion.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The following motion was not made, being identical with motion 96. *

Motion 97.

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI:

97. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 50,120 for travelling allowances for the District Police Officers by Rs. 5,000.*

Motions 98 to 107.

The following motions lapsed on account of the expiry of the time-limit prescribed for Demand XIII—Police.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI:

98. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,500 for purchase and hire of boats by Rs. 1,000.*

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI:

99. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,000 for office expenses and miscellaneous by Rs. 1,000.*

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI:

100. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,000 for office expenses and miscellaneous by Rs. 1,000.*

MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI:

101. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,551 for pay of establishment paid from contingencies by Rs. 1,500.*

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI:

102. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 2,000 for Reserve*

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI:

103. *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,73,500 for District Police by Rs. 31,210.*

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI:

104. *To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 5.21 lakhs under Demand XIII by Rs. 1,96,515.*

MR. V. RAMAN PILLAI:

105. *To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 5.21 lakhs under Demand XIII by Rs. 1 lakh.*

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI:

106. *To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 5.21 lakhs under Demand XIII by Rs. 35,000.*

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI:

107. *To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 5.21 lakhs under Demand XIII by Rs. 5,000.*

PRESIDENT: The question is that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 5.21 lakhs minus Rs. 1,700 under Demand XIII Police.

The motion was carried and the grant made.

The Council adjourned at 5-15 P. M., to meet again on the 2nd August at 11-30 A. M.

S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.